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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Deputy Director (Plans)
Chief, Psychological and Paramilitary Staff

SUBJECT: Radio Free Europe and Crusade for Freedom

This memorandum is for information only.

The attached memorandum from James Lambie to Governor Adams may be of interest to you. It emphasizes the favorable impression made by Radio Free Europe on him and the Crusade for Freedom group.

CORD MEYER, JR.
Chief

International Organizations Division

Attachment:

Memo to Governor Adams,
dated 4 November 1957

cc: DDCI

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bcc: John A. DeChant
Bryce N. Harlow

November 4, 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR GOVERNOR ADAMS

Subject: Radio Free Europe and Crusade for Freedom

I recently shared with 55 state and area chairmen and heads of civic organizations a CFF- sponsored inspection trip to RFE-Munich, the Czech border, Freedom Bell in Berlin, East Berlin, SHAPE.

Because you are importuned from time to time by RFE/CFF, I thought you'd be interested in an impression of this operation.

MUNICH: Briefing by European Director of RFE, political advisor, operational subordinates. Inspection of facilities. The latter are of the best, probably not equaled anywhere in quality and extent. Personnel, both exile and non-exile, seem top-notch; qualified, intelligent, alert, good esprit. RFE is old enough and big enough to be suffering the ills of bureaucracy. But despite that there seem to be reasonably good coordination and efficiency. Reception by U.S. Consul General: a flop. Trip to Czech border; a dramatic highlight, even though one has seen barbed wire before; reciprocal photographing by tour members and Czech guards, etc. Cabaret by RFE exile personnel and buffet by German-American Women's Club; successes.

BERLIN: Reception in the Schoensberg Rathaus by Mayor Willy Brandt; great. Brandt is young, dynamic, imaginative, personable, forceful man, speaks beautiful English, a fitting successor to Reuter. Freedom Bell: up an awful lot of steps but still there, sounds the same. East Berlin: sure, more ruins and less reconstruction than West Berlin, no shape like Kurfurstendamm's Stalin Alley a sham, but failed to note the vaunted contrast in people's clothes or facial expressions -- some contrast, perhaps, not marked; the Soviet Garden of Remembrance interesting for the irony of its creation but shares the universality of any cemetery. Kongresshalle in Tiergarten: impressive architecture, fair-to-good briefing by U.S. Mission and Army officials.

PARIS, SHAPE: Excellent, lucid situation briefing by General Schuyler, vice General Norstadt, who was preempted by Congressmen.

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From Crusade's point of view the trip was eminently successful. All the people on it acquired new understanding and enthusiasm. Even from our point of view; vide: Cyril Magnin, head of the Joseph Magnin stores in California said to me that before making this trip he was of the opinion that we were spending too much money abroad: after it he was persuaded the President is right, the Congress is wrong.

James M. Lambie, Jr.

cc: General Goodpaster
Mr. Minnich

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